





BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1963.

THE MAYOR OF PENRYN: Councillor W.G. Beswetherick, J.P.

CHAIRMAN: Alderman F. Mark Tallack.

ALDERMEN: E.C. Gwyther, E.W. Medlin, and J.F.C. Tregenza.

COUNCILLORS: J.A. Barringer, A.C. Dunstan, Mrs. M.A.L. Edwards,  
W.G.H. Kingdon M.B.E., E. Murray, C.H. G. Probert,  
A.R. Sisson, D.H.L. Thomas, S. Thomas, E.A.G.  
Webber, Mrs. D.M. Williams.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

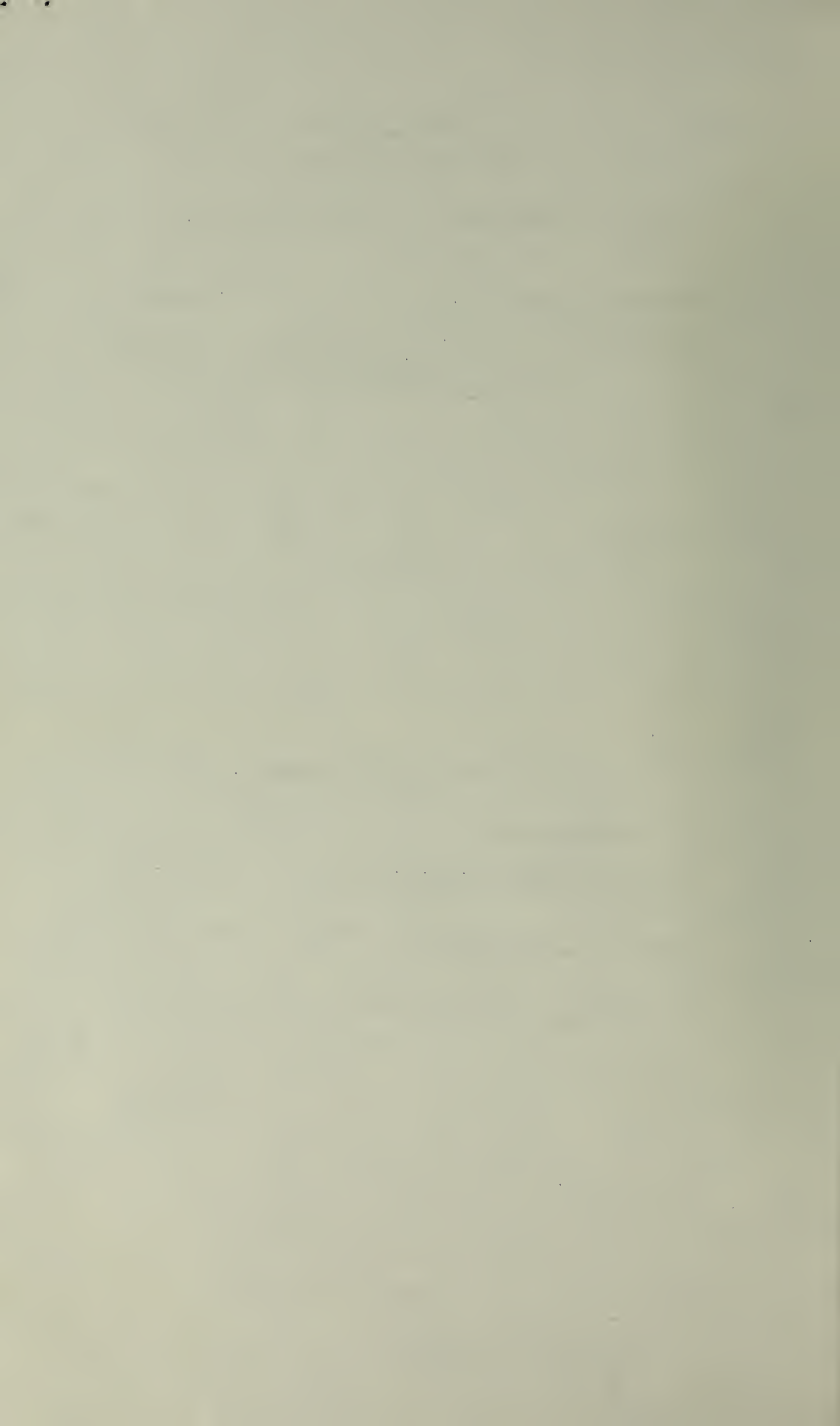
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

V.E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.  
Health Area Office, The Leats, TRURO.  
Tel. Truro 2202/3.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

J.W. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I.,  
Municipal Offices, 15, Broad Street, PENRYN.  
Tel. Penryn 2289.

CLERK: Miss. S.Keen.



Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health and sanitary condition of the Borough of Penryn during 1963.

The vital statistics are marred by an exceptionally large upward swing in the death rate, from 13.2 per 1,000 in 1962 to 17.2 per 1,000 in 1963. It was tempting to attribute this to the exceptionally cold spell at the beginning of the year but that provided only a partial answer.

There was virtually no epidemic disease during the year but this I regret to say was not due to a high immunisation rate among the children. That the protection rate against poliomyelitis is fairly satisfactory may be due to the fact that there were cases of this disease in the Borough within recent years whereas the last case of diphtheria has been completely forgotten.

Once more I am grateful for this opportunity to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their understanding and consideration throughout the year and Mr. Armstrong for his loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

V.E. WHITMAN

Medical Officer of Health  
Borough of Penryn.



# GENERAL STATISTICS

Except where otherwise stated the figures in brackets throughout the report are the comparable figures for 1962.

Area acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	829
Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,830 (4,780)
Number of inhabited houses				..	..	..	..	..	..	1,496 (1,449)
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£119,513 (£53,269)
Product of penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£465.7.4 (£219.13.5)
Number of houses built or under construction since 1945	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	612 (585)
Number of families on waiting list for houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	166 (140)

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Live Births

Males	37 (57)	Females	47 (41)	Total	84 (98)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..	..	1.02	(0.93)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, Penryn	..	..	..	17.8	(19.1)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales	..	..	..	18.2	(18.0)

### Illegitimate Live Births

Males	1(3)	Females	2 (0)	Total	3 (3)
Percentage of total live births	..	..	..	..	3.6 (3.1)

### Still Births

Males	2 (2)	Females	3 (1)	Total	5 (3)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, Penryn	..	..	..	56.2	(29.7)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, England and Wales	..	..	..	17.3	(13.1)

### Deaths

Males	43 (33)	Females	30 (21)	Total	73 (54)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..	..	1.14	(1.18)
Death rate per 1,000 population, Penryn	..	..	..	17.2	(13.3)
Death rate per 1,000 population, England and Wales	..	..	..	12.2	(11.9)

### Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

Males	2 (1)	Females	1 (0)	Total	3 (1)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, Penryn	..	..	..	35.7	(10.2)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, England and Wales	..	..	..	20.9	(21.4)
Maternal deaths	..	..	..	..	Nil

### Statistics since 1950

The figures in brackets in this table are those for the U.K.

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>	<u>Still Birth Rate</u>
1950	19.1 (15.8)	11.6 (11.6)	NIL (29.6)	NIL (22.7)
1951	17.5 (15.5)	11.2 (12.5)	41.7 (29.7)	27.0 (23.0)
1952	19.5 (15.3)	10.1 (11.3)	24.7 (27.6)	14.0 (22.7)





	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>	<u>Still Birth Rate</u>
1953	17.0 (15.5)	13.2 (11.4)	27.8 (26.8)	14.0 (22.5)
1954	19.9 (15.2)	11.4 (11.3)	56.1 (25.4)	21.2 (23.5)
1955	21.4 (15.0)	12.0 (11.7)	40.8 (24.9)	20.0 (23.2)
1956	16.9 (15.6)	12.7 (11.7)	25.6 (23.7)	12.7 (22.9)
1957	16.9 (16.1)	13.2 (11.5)	26.0 (23.1)	37.5 (22.5)
1958	15.8 (16.4)	12.9 (11.7)	41.7 (22.6)	76.9 (21.6)
1959	15.1 (16.5)	15.0 (11.6)	NIL (22.2)	14.3 (21.0)
1960	14.0 (17.1)	11.5 (11.5)	31.1 (21.7)	30.3 (19.7)
1961	14.3 (17.4)	12.9 (12.0)	41.7 (21.4)	NIL (18.7)
1962	19.1 (18.0)	13.2 (11.9)	10.2 (21.4)	29.7 (18.1)
1963	17.8 (18.2)	17.2 (12.2)	35.7 (20.9)	56.2 (17.3)

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	3	7
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0	1
Diabetes	0	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	7	11	12
Coronary disease	6	5	9	9
Hypertension with heart disease	0	2	1	2
Other heart disease	6	6	10	10
Other circulatory disease	4	3	4	2
Pneumonia	2	2	0	6
Bronchitis	1	4	3	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	0	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	1	0
Congenital malformations	0	1	0	0
Other defined and ill defined diseases	5	6	6	4
Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0	1
All other accidents	1	1	1	1
Suicide	0	0	0	1
	46	51	54	73



DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 +	2 (1)	1 (0)	3 (1)
1 - 4	2 (1)	0 (0)	2 (1)
5 - 14	0 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)
15 - 24	1 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)
25 - 44	2 (1)	0 (0)	2 (1)
45 - 64	11 (10)	6 (4)	17 (14)
65 - 74	14 (8)	6 (3)	20 (11)
75+	11 (12)	16 (14)	27 (26)
	<u>43 (33)</u>	<u>30 (21)</u>	<u>73 (54)</u>

PERINATAL MORTALITY 1963

	<u>Population</u> <u>Mid.1963</u>	<u>Live</u> <u>Births</u>	<u>Still</u> <u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths within</u> <u>7 days</u>	<u>Perinatal Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
Falmouth	17,410	265	9	1	36.5
Penryn	4,830	84	5	1	67.4
Truro City	13,900	202	8	1	42.9
Truro Rural	27,540	435	11	5	35.9
Health Area	63,680	986	33	8	40.2

Cornwall: Perinatal Mortality, 1963 32.2

East Cornwall Clinical Area 21.9

West Cornwall Clinical Area 34.7

England & Wales, Perinatal Mortality, 1963 29.3

The increase in the number of deaths from 54 to 73 is not easily explained. The bitterly cold spell in the first quarter of the year was responsible for an increased number of deaths over 65 years of age, in 1962 the over 65 deaths in this quarter were 14 as compared with 19 in 1963. But over the whole year the number of deaths in this group was only 10 more than in 1962. Analysis of the causes of death in the lower age groups reveal no common factor and it is certain there was no epidemic disease in the community.

The infant that died within hours of birth was very premature and also had brain damage. Both the other deaths under 1 year of age were due to pneumonia but they occurred long after the cold spell was over. In the 1-4 year group 1 death was due to an acute virus infection the other to pneumonia. The five year old died of leukaemia which had not been a cause of death in Penryn during the previous 15 years. The 20 year old died as a result of a motor cycle accident, the only death from this cause in Penryn during the year. In the 25-44 year group one death was due to cardiac failure and the other to a tumour inside the skull. In the 45-64 year group 2 deaths were due to coronary disease, 3 to other



cardiac vascular conditions, 4 to malignant new growth (1 cancer of lung) and 3 to cerebral haemorrhage. All this adds up to the conclusion that the increase in the number of deaths was due to chance. This sort of thing is always a possibility in small communities. This is very obvious when calculating the perinatal mortality rate which on account of 2 extra still births shot up from 39.6 to 67.4.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

#### 1. Clinics

##### Infant Welfare Clinic

53 (47 sessions were held at which there were 1500 (1199) attendances.

The average was thus about 28 (26) per session.

Dental Clinic - This clinic was finally closed at the beginning of the year and all dental work was transferred to Falmouth.

#### 2. Ambulance Service and Hospital car Services

These services are based on Falmouth.

#### 3. Home Help Service

During the year 7 (7) maternity and 57 (60) other cases were given help in their own homes.

I should like to record here my gratitude to Mrs. Eustice who has organised the work of this service in the Borough over the past sixteen years with such efficiency and humanity.

#### 4. After Care

No grants of free extra nourishment were made during the year.

#### Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>
General cases	97	70	48	46
Nursing visits	2888	1787	1751	1475
Midwifery cases	44	42	66	58
Midwifery visits	850	612	921	946
Ante Natal visits	472	458	601	747
Home visits to children under 5	2454	2966	2914	2878
Health visits to old persons	590	223	519	349

Miss. E.J. Jennings, Assistant County Nursing Officer reports:

It is very disappointing to learn that the Penryn perinatal mortality rate was once again higher than that for the County as a whole, which in its turn was higher than the figure for England and Wales.

Every expectant mother can help to improve this sad state of affairs by starting regular ante natal care before she is 12 weeks pregnant, Regular tests to estimate the amount of iron in the blood, regular weighing and wise eating will do much to prevent expectant mothers developing the conditions which often cause still births and infant deaths.

A weekly Ante natal Relaxation Class has been started by Mrs. Wallis, the District Midwife, and Miss. Clarke the Health Visitor. Expectant Mothers booked for either hospital or home delivery are welcomed.

Children can still suffer from and they do still die from poliomyelitis,





diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. In Penryn on 31st December 1963 112 children under the age of 5 years were unprotected. Protection is free.

Penryn Old Peoples Welfare Committee continues to be responsible for the Meals on Wheels Service and the Chiropody Service. Both give invaluable help to many elderly citizens. Good food and well cared for feet do much to prevent ill health.

#### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Measles</u>		<u>Whooping Cough</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under 1 year	1	2	-	-
1 - 2	-	3	-	-
3 - 4	3	3	1	-
5 - 9	5	4	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 and over	-	-	-	-
	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>21</u>		<u>1</u>	

#### Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

By the end of 1963, 2187 (1769) persons had received at least 2 doses of poliomyelitis vaccine and of these 1694 (1276) had had 3 doses.

Details for 1963 are as follows

<u>Sabin Vaccine</u>	<u>Children under 16</u>	<u>16-25</u>	<u>Expectant Mothers</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>Total</u>
3 doses	464	18	-	46	528

Salk Vaccine - 2 children born in 1962 were each given 2 doses.

No case of the disease was notified during the year.

#### Immunisation against Diphtheria

During the year 100 (58) children under five were immunised against Diphtheria and 60 (60) booster doses were given.

On the 31st December, the estimated number of children between the ages of 1 year and 5 years in Penryn was 296 (348) of those 184 (219) or 62.2% (62.9%) had been immunised. This figure is so low that the danger of epidemic diphtheria cannot be ignored.

#### Vaccination against Smallpox

	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15+</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number vaccinated	3	4	-	1	8
Number re-vaccinated	-	1	2	5	8

In 1962 when smallpox was epidemic in 2 areas in the United Kingdom the number of vaccinations done in Penryn was 708 with 136 re-vaccinations. In 1963 the epidemic was completely forgotten and only 7 infants were brought for vaccination.





# TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>New Cases</u> <u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Deaths</u> <u>Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
Under 64	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	1	-
	1	-	1	-

There were no new cases of or deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. On the 31st December, there were 36 (35) respiratory and 11 (11) non-respiratory cases on the register.

Rate per 1,000 population, Penryn 7.5 (7.3)

Rate per 1,000 population, Cornwall 5.7 (5.3)

Up to 31st December 852 (785) children, 112 (107) of them contacts with cases of tuberculosis, had received B.C.G. vaccination 740 (678) were dealt with under the scheme for school children who are now offered vaccination in their first year in the secondary schools.

30 school leavers and 33 mantoux positive children were examined by X-rays. All were found to be free of disease.

The annual X-ray examination of the granite workers in and near Penryn discovered one new case of silicosis.

Census 1961 - The County Report on the figures collected in 1961 in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly became available recently. From it I have extracted the particulars in the following table which shows what a lot of work remains to be done before every dwelling has the four amenities which most people rightly regard as necessities.

## PERMANENT DWELLINGS ONLY

	<u>Total</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage without</u>				
		<u>Cold water</u> <u>tap indoors.</u>	<u>Hot water</u> <u>tap</u>	<u>Fixed</u> <u>bath</u>	<u>Water</u> <u>Closet</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>with all 4</u> <u>amenities</u>
Cornwall	108,324	9.15	31.19	32.27	16.52	61.70
All rural areas	47,712	15.91	37.11	37.89	26.92	56.17
All urban areas	60,612	3.86	26.49	26.58	8.31	66.04
Falmouth M.B.	5,024	0.84	14.71	15.09	1.91	80.00
Penryn M.B.	1,386	6.37	30.12	29.83	8.25	64.36
Truro M.B.	4,225	1.76	18.13	21.78	5.02	72.90
Truro R.D.	9,030	18.94	34.46	35.50	29.84	59.84



BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER, 1963.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I beg to submit my annual report for 1963.

Increasing legislation brings new work much faster than it can be attended to especially with so many problems in a Borough of our age.

One useful sewer extension in Eastwood Road was completed and a survey and report prepared for the difficult Packsaddle area.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.W. ARMSTRONG.

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

There are some 1554 habitable dwellings in the Borough, 553 owned by the Council. For the second year no houses were erected by the Council.

17 were built by private enterprise with 10 further houses under construction at the end of the year.

SLUM CLEARANCE/BOROUGH OF PENRYN (ST. THOMAS STREET-BOHILL AREA) CLEARANCE ORDER 1959:

The 15 properties of No.4 and 5 areas in St. Thomas Street have been demolished. 5 houses in No.6 area have been vacated, leaving 2 properties still occupied, with a single person in each house. In the No.7 area 3 houses re-conditioned, 3 houses closed and 1 still occupied.

HOUSING ACTS 1936-57/PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936:

As a result of informal action repairs have been carried out to 7 properties. 1 Statutory Notice was served and the necessary repairs carried out. 2 Closing Orders were made, but in each case an undertaking was accepted from the owner to repair. Closing Orders were also rescinded on 2 houses that had been satisfactorily repaired. 3 demolition orders were made.

CLEARANCE AREAS/UNFIT HOUSES:

Of the 126 houses scheduled in 1956, 39 have been closed, 40 demolished, 33 repaired and 14 are awaiting further consideration.

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES:

There has been an increase in applications for improvement grants.

7 Discretionary and 12 Standard were approved during the year.

The Council continue their policy of effecting improvements upon request of tenants in the older type houses.

Hot Water Systems were installed in 7 premises. Nos. 56/58, Truro Lane re-constructed with modernisation of No.62, Truro Lane and 16, Mutton Row.

A scheme was prepared for re-constructing Nos. 5, 7 & 9, The Praze.

REHOUSING:

The general waiting list has slightly increased to 166 partly due to an increased request from Council tenants to exchange tenancies.

The proposed old peoples development at The College was abandoned due to site difficulties and a scheme put in the course of preparation for redeveloping vacant sites in St. Thomas Street.





## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### REFUSE COLLECTION:

A kerb side collection is made weekly from every dwelling house and trade premises in the Borough. Some 992 loads were deposited at Falmouth Borough's controlled tip at Trescobeas.

### STREET SCAVENGING:

This service has been improved by the employment of a 3rd sweeper. More storage bins in suitable positions are required to avoid unnecessary walking to empty trucks.

There are 10.82 miles of streets in the Borough, 3.2 are swept daily, 2.3 twice weekly, 1.22 weekly and the remainder occasionally.

The 12 litter bins are still used by the public.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

There are 4 ladies and gents conveniences cleansed daily.

The pollution of the river from the Town Quay continues, although this should be remedied next year.

A new site in the centre of the town still continues to be a problem.

## VERMIN INFESTATION

### RODENTS:

720 properties were inspected, 20 were found to be infested by rats and 4 by mice.

Regular inspections and treatments of the river banks have been carried out where a greater number of rodents than usual were found.

2 sewer treatments were carried out, covering the whole of the area, 45 manholes treated with a slight infestation recorded on one occasion.

### INSECT PESTS:

No infestation of bed bugs were reported.

Fleas were the most common form of vermin, 3 houses being disinfected.

3 houses were treated for house flies and 14 wasp nests destroyed.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

64 inspections of drainage systems were made. The sewer extension at Eastwood Road was completed removing several drains that discharged into the river.

A survey and report was made for the sewerage of Packsaddle area where new development is proposed.

One drain was laid across Commercial Road removing a direct discharge into the river.

One property was connected to a water carriage system. Flush cisterns were supplied to 9 hand flushed closets. There are 7 properties without water carriage drainage. 45 properties have cesspools or septic tanks which are emptied as necessary.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### MILK:

2 premises are registered to sell milk.

### ICE CREAM:

18 premises sell this commodity, 14 prepacked only.



OTHER FOODS:

Certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of 144 tins of various foods.

COMPLAINTS RELATING TO FOOD:

2 complaints were investigated, one resulting in a warning and no further action considered in the other case.

STORAGE, PREPARATION & DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

The total number of food premises in the area are 60.

Improvements have been effected in 8 premises, there are also a few Bed and Breakfast premises within the area.

WATER SUPPLY

This is supplied by the Falmouth Borough and has been adequate during the year.

All except 18 properties served by 13 private supplies are on mains water.

Possible development in the Packsaddle area may provide a water main for this district where some supplies are suspect.

DISEASE OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

There are 3 licensed plants and equipment within the Borough.

One application was received during the year..

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS ACT:

Premises	No. on Register	No.of Inspect.	Written Notices	Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the L.A.	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	34	18	3	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	34	18	3	-

Particulars	No.of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	to H.M. Inspect.	Referred by H.M.Inspect.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a)insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers).					
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

